PCPIR

2653. Dr. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether government, have approved the policy for Petroleum, Chemicals and Petrochemicals Investment Regions (PCPIR), which are expected to be many times bigger than the SEZ and each PCPIR would be spread over 25,000 hectares;

(b) whether Government have already approved his Ministry's proposal to build PCPIRs; and

(c) if so, how many such projects are likely to be approved alongwith the size thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The policy for setting up (PCPIR) has been published in the Gazette of India (Extraordinary), Part I, Section 1, dated 4th April, 2007. The ,same is also available on the web-site of the Department, *www.chemicals.nit:in*.

(c) The proposals from interested State Governments will be considered in terms of this policy. The policy does not prescribe the number of PCPIRs to be setup.

Price rise of drugs

2654. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have empowered drug price regulator National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority to take action against pharma companies which increase prices of products by more than 10 per cent in a year;

(b) whether the pharma industry at present is free to increase the prices of non-Scheduled medicines as drugs prices are not fixed by Government up to 20 per, cent in a year; and

(c) if so, whether the Department of Chemicals has asked NPPA to keep track of all non-Scheduled drugs, whose prices have gone up by more than 10% in a year and take regulatory action against those companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The pharma industry at present is free to increase the prices of non Scheduled formulations upto 10% during a period of 12 months.

(c) In case of non-Scheduled formulations NPPA only monitors the price movement and if there is any price increase by more than 10% in one year and the annual turnover of the formulation pack exceeds RS.l crore, further, the share of the formulator in the segment of the formulation is required to be at least 20% of the market or the medicine is first 3 top medicines of that group, then the case is